

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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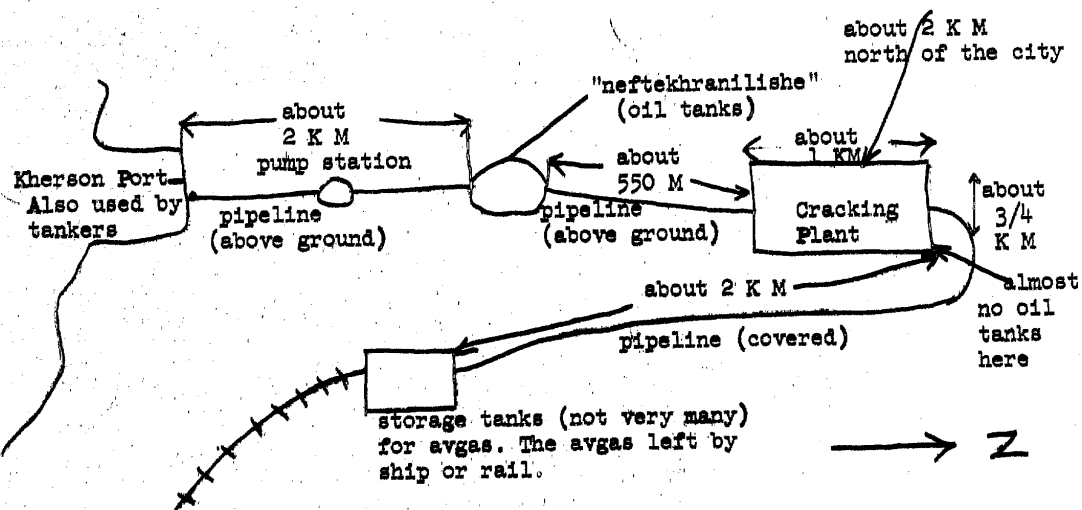
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1. The Kherson Cracking Plant was built during the period 1935-1937. [redacted]
[redacted] The refinery was of a standard type and
was one of the earliest modern refineries in the USSR. The Odessa Cracking
Plant was identical to the Kherson installation. Therefore, the information
presented below on the Kherson refinery is also applicable to the Odessa
plant. Another construction trust built another cracking plant of the same
type. [redacted] it was located at Kerch. [redacted] there was also
one other, in Bryansk. The rough sketch below, not to scale, indicates the
layout of the Kherson Cracking Plant.



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The equipment of the cracking plant consisted primarily of pipes, filters, and pumps. There were few buildings - the mechanical repair shop, pump station, steam power station, and office. The buildings were of brick. A brick wall, about three meters high and topped by broken glass and steel, surrounded the plant.

2. Because the Kherson Cracking Plant was of a standard type, the cost of construction of the other refineries mentioned above was the same. The cost would have varied no more than 10%, and any difference would have been occasioned by adjustment to local conditions, such as varying transportation costs.
3. The total cost of the Kherson Cracking Plant was approximately 23 million rubles. This figure covered all items, including equipment and pipelines. The construction work (straitelnii raboti) cost about five million rubles, which was included in the total cost. "Straitelnii raboti" included earth excavations, the railway spur line, and construction of the pump station, earth and concrete foundations for the "neftekhranilishe" (oil tanks), mechanical repair shop, steam power station, office, and quarters for the VOKhR. The men who acted as guards and firemen at the plant were referred to as members of the VOKhR (voennizirovaniya Okhrana-militarized guard). In addition, two or three apartment buildings for the plant's workers and other employees were under construction about two kilometers south of the refinery. Each apartment building had three floors and was to cost about 550 thousand rubles each. This sum was also included in the total cost of the plant.

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In regard to preparation of the site, the technological processes of a refinery do not require any particular levelling of a site. The cost of such items as ditches and foundations was included in the cost of "straitelnii raboti."

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